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Security Council

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Letter dated 30 June 2004 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

Members of the Security Council have accorded full attention to your letter dated 12 March 2004 (S/2004/528), in which you refer to progress achieved and expected in preparation of an international conference on the Great Lakes region.

Council members are grateful to you for appointing a Special Representative to offer, together with the African Union, advice to the Governments concerned in order to help them organize the conference. They appreciate those efforts to promote the establishment of long-lasting relations of good-neighbourliness among States of the region. Since the United Republic of Tanzania currently plans to host the conference in November 2004, they are of the view that the summit should provide the opportunity for strengthening progress achieved by that date. They hope in particular that such a prospect will encourage the Governments concerned to put the finishing touches to the normalization of their relations and put in place confidence-building measures to guarantee the security of their borders.

While noting that the conference is to be organized under the aegis of the United Nations and the African Union in an active partnership, Council members nevertheless attach considerable importance to the fact that the countries concerned have taken full ownership of it. Therefore, members of the Council asked for more detailed information on the need for nine additional international civil servants referred to in your letter.

(*Signed*) Lauro L. **Baja**, Jr.
President of the Security Council

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